(b) if so, to what extent various activities of Paradeep port is privatised; and

(c) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T. G. VENKATRAMAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No activity at Paradip Port has been privatised so far.

(c) Does Not arise.

Privatisation of Ports

135. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have announced a new policy for privatisation of ports in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken to attract private investment for creation of new ports in different parts of the country; and

(d) the details of the response of the private sector to the offer made by Government in that regard?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T. G. VENKATRAMAN): (a) and (b) The Government has issued clear and transparent guidelines for private sector participation in Major Ports to cover the following areas:—

(1) Leasing out existing assets of the port.

(2) Construction/Creation of additional assets, such as:—

(i) Construction and operation of container terminals.

(ii) Construction and operation of bulk, break bulk, multipurpose and specialised cargo berths.

(iii) Warehousing, Container Freight Stations, Storage facilities and tank farms.

(iv) Cranage/Handling Equipment.

(v) Setting up of captive power plants.

(vi) Dry docking and ship repair facilities.

(3) Leasing of equipment for port handling and leasing of floating crafts from the private sector.

(4) Pilotage.

(5) Captive facilities for port based industries.

(c) and (d) No such proposal for creation of any new major port in private sector is under consideration of Central Government at present.

Irregularties by traders involved in under-invoicing of Polymer Imports

136. DR. D. VENKATESHWAR RAO: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether irregularities by traders involved in under invoicing particularly of polymer imports have been reported from Kandla Port;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the measures taken to check the loss and stop the malpractice?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T. G. VENKATRAMAN): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Status of order-book of Hindustan Shipyard Ltd.

137. SHRI YERRA NARAYANASWAMY: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the status of the order-book of Hindustan Shipyard Ltd., in Visakhapatnam, A.P.;

(b) whether there is capacity under-utilisation in HSL; and